Cal Poly to Host National Qualifying Event for USA Pentathlon

In January athletes from across the country will come to Cal Poly to compete for a spot on the USA Pentathlon 2020 Olympic team. On Jan. 18 and 19, Cal Poly will host a national qualifying event for roughly 50 athletes competing in the modern pentathlon. This is the second of two qualifiers; the first will be held in Colorado Springs in December. The top four men and four women after both qualifiers will be named to Team USA. The modern pentathlon puts competitors through five distinct events including fencing, swimming, equestrian ride and a laser run, which combines shooting a laser pistol with cross country running — in one day. The female athletes will compete on Saturday, Jan. 18, and the male competitors will compete on Sunday, Jan. 19. Cal Poly is acting as the Local Organizing Committee and host site for the two-day event. Cal Poly Corporation’s Conference and Event Planning is leading the effort. Volunteers are being sought to fill a range of jobs, from serving as judges or referees, to handing out water to athletes. Visit https://irislogin.com/identity/login?signin=17f688f07dd76c36d91c457793b6cd7c to create an account and sign up to volunteer.

Student-Grown Poinsettias on Sale Starting Dec. 6

The Cal Poly Poinsettia Student Enterprise is once again selling plants to the campus and the broader community, with the annual sale kicking off Friday, Dec. 6, at the Poly Plant Shop and running through mid-December. The plants make nice additions to graduation receptions, banquets and general office holiday decor. This year’s poinsettia project offers many shades of red, white, pink and other variegated varieties. Sizes range from small plants in two-inch pots to large poinsettias reaching three feet high, in ten-inch pots. Prices range from $5 to $50. The sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Poly Plant Shop. In addition to poinsettias, the Poly Plant Holiday Sale also features student-made wreaths, centerpieces, succulents, ornaments and gifts. Poinsettias, as supplies last, will be available at Poly Plant Shop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, through Saturday, Dec. 14. For more information, call ext. 6-1106.

Free Entry to the Cal Poly Recreation Center Dec. 16 to 22

Kick off winter break with free entry to the Cal Poly Recreation Center from Monday, Dec. 16, to Sunday, Dec. 22. Faculty, staff, alumni, emeritus and household members are welcome to enjoy the facility’s amenities including fitness classes, state-of-the-art equipment, the lap pool, gymnasiums, racquetball courts, and more — free of charge as a gift to you. Take advantage of quieter exercise rooms and open fitness classes with no reservations required during winter break. Visit the Membership Services front desk or call ext. 6-1366 for more information.

Vet Net Ally Training Offered Dec. 13

The number of military veterans pursuing higher education in the coming years is expected to increase dramatically as veterans take advantage of educational benefits provided by the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill. The Center for Military-Connected Students will host a Vet Net Ally training from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, presented by CSU Veterans Affairs Director Marshall Thomas. This awareness program is designed to educate members of the university community about the needs and concerns of student veterans at Cal Poly. The transition from military life to college life can result in significant culture shock for veterans, so providing a network of allies across campus can create a welcome environment for those who have served their country. RSVP to veteranscenter@calpoly.edu, and help to establish a network of visible allies to provide support, information and assistance to veterans.

Employment

Corporation Employment Opportunities
Cal Poly Corporation is a separate entity operating in concert with the university to provide a diverse range of services and resources to students, faculty and staff. To view all available job postings visit https://www.calpolycorporationjobs.org. For assistance, contact Human Resources at ext. 6-1121.

Director of Campus Dining. Campus Dining. Salary commensurate with experience.

ASI Employment Opportunities
Candidates can visit http://www.asi.calpoly.edu/jobs to complete an ASI application and apply for open positions. For more information, visit the ASI Business Office in UU 212 or call ext. 6-5800.


Assistant Director — Wellness and Fitness. Annual Salary: $71,837 with excellent benefits. Position open until filled.

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Campus Invited to Donate to Mustang Holiday Gift Drive by Dec. 6
The Center for Service in Action (CSA) invites all students, staff, faculty and families to contribute to the Mustang Holiday Gift Drive. Campus community members can contribute by either picking up a gift tag and purchasing a gift ($20-30 value) for a child in need this holiday season, or visit https://crowdfund.calpoly.edu/project/18005 to donate money. The CSA will use the donations to purchase the remaining gifts at the end of the drive to ensure as many children as possible receive gifts this holiday season. To pick up a gift tag, visit one of the Giving Trees located throughout campus: on the first floor of Kennedy Library (No. 35), the second floor of the University Union (No. 65), and the CSA office in the Science Building (No. 52, Room E22). Campus members can also arrange to have a CSA staff member bring the tags to an office, staff meeting or other event by contacting Kaylee Roe at serviceinaction@calpoly.edu. Each tag represents a specific request supporting local children and families in need. Bring newly purchased, unwrapped gift items to the CSA office by Friday, Dec. 6.

Join the Celebration at Light Up The Holidays Event Dec. 7 in Poly Canyon Village
Campus Dining is helping everyone wrap up the quarter and get a head start on their holiday celebrations with a new event in Poly Canyon Village on Saturday, Dec. 7. The Light Up The Holidays event will give the campus community the opportunity to celebrate another successful quarter with lively music, free cookie decorating, a holiday light display, and shopping with local vendors and artisans. This inaugural event will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Poly Canyon Village plaza. Enjoy time with friends and co-workers and stroll through the beautifully illuminated courtyard and marketplace while enjoying treats from Negranti Creamery and Einstein Bros. Bagels’ hot cocoa station.

Retirements
Pat Hermenegildo will retire at the end of December after 25 years in the Financial Aid and Scholarship office. A reception will be held in the Administration Building (No. 1) lobby from 2-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Marikay Pannone, administrative support coordinator II for the Office of Writing and Learning Initiatives, is retiring after 13 years of service to Cal Poly. Pannone began her work in the Office of the Registrar in 2006 as a records associate and transferred to the Writing Skills Program a year later. She supported the program’s progression to the University Writing and Rhetoric Center, and more recently to the Office of Writing and Learning Initiatives. Pannone has been integral to Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR) program administration, processing the milestone of every Cal Poly student since 2007. The most meaningful part of her job has been witnessing the energy that radiates from students when they accomplish their goals. In retirement, Pannone looks forward to volunteering for Literacy for Life, learning to golf, traveling and spending quality time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Pannone will be honored at the Writing and Learning Center’s Holiday Open House from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6.

Christopher L. Kitts is retiring after more than 24 years of service to Cal Poly. He will be honored with a reception from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, in Fischer Science Hall (No. 33), Room 385. After earning his doctorate from UC Santa Cruz, Kitts arrived at Cal Poly in September 1995, fresh off a post-doctoral appointment at Los Alamos National Laboratory. At that time, he was the first Biological Sciences Department's tenure-track hire in 17 years. Kitts taught mostly general microbiology, microbial ecology, and microbial physiology in his first decade at Cal Poly. During this time, Kitts co-founded the Environmental Biotechnology Institute, which was renamed the Center for Applications in Biotechnology when he began as the director in 2011. In 2008, he became chair of biological sciences, taking the department through a major transition as 15 tenured faculty retired in the first two years of his stint as chair. In retirement, Kitts is looking forward to working with many more students on wild and improbable research projects as professor emeritus. For more information on Kitts’ retirement reception, contact the Office of Research and Economic Development at research@calpoly.edu, or the Biological Sciences Department at biosci@calpoly.edu.

David Mason will retire from on Dec. 30 after 31 years of service, and a reception will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, in the PAC lobby. Mason began his time at Cal Poly as a student in 1982 and never left. He started as a student assistant in Disabled Student Services (now Disability Resource Center or DRC) and transitioned into a state position in 1988 with Student Academic Services as a database programmer. He moved to ITS as the first dedicated PC support person. Mason’s next transition was to the Administration and Finance division to start the ANTS support group. Academic Affairs was his next home, where he implemented the ImageNow system and started the DOTS support group. After a two-year stint with ITS, he returned to Academic Affairs to wrap up his career. He and his wife plan to move to Carson City, Nevada, to start the next chapter of their lives.